

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original): An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, or a complement thereof; and
- (b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, or a complement thereof.

2. (Original): An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof.

3. (Currently Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, and wherein the variant has kinase activity.

5. (Currently Amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least ~~60%~~ 95% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or a complement thereof, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a polypeptide having kinase activity;
- b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of at least ~~30~~ 750 contiguous nucleotides of a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or a complement thereof, wherein the at least 750 contiguous nucleotides encode a polypeptide having kinase activity;
- c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least ~~about 60%~~ 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof, wherein the polypeptide has kinase activity; and
- d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least ~~40~~ 250 contiguous amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or a complement thereof, wherein the at least 250 contiguous amino acids have kinase activity.

6. (Currently Amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to ~~the~~ a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid of any one of claims 1, 2, ~~[[3,]]~~ 4, or 5 ~~under stringent conditions in~~ 4X sodium chloride/sodium citrate (SSC), at 65-70°C, followed by one or more washes in 1X SSC, at 65-70°C.

7. (Currently Amended): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, ~~[[3,]]~~ 4, or 5, and a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

8. (Currently Amended): A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, ~~[[3,]]~~ 4, or 5.

9. (Original): The vector of claim 8, which is an expression vector.

10. (Original): A host cell transfected with the expression vector of claim 9.

11. (Original): A method of producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 10 in an appropriate culture medium to, thereby, produce the polypeptide.

12-20. (Currently Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended): A kit comprising a compound which selectively hybridizes to a complement of the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, ~~[[3,]]~~ 4, or 5 and instructions for use.

22-25. (Currently Canceled)